REMARKS:

Claims 1, 13 and 21 have been amended so as to state that the recombinant VSV particle is an infectious particle that simulates infection with the foreign virus but does not cause disease or symptoms associated with the foreign virus. Support for these amendments may be found at least at page 6, line 26 to page 7, line 1 wherein it is stated that 'the recombinant VSV particle is an infectious system that stimulates infection with the foreign virus and yet does not cause disease or the symptoms associated with the foreign virus... As will be apparent to one of skill in the art, only a single dose of the vaccine is required to elicit a protective immune response in the host... It is of note that the virus must be living to generate protection...'. Further support may be found at least in Example II (page 8, lines 13 to 30).

In Applicant's invention, the recombinant particle contains only VHF glycoprotein which as discussed above is taught against by the prior art. As a result, the system can be used multiple times to inoculate one individual against different non-VSV glycoproteins and the vaccination is effective even in case where there has been a previous VSV exposure. Furthermore, the virus particle is 'living', that is, is infectious and is capable of multiple rounds of infection.

Claims 1, 5, 13, 17, 19-21, 25 and 27-28 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as anticipated by Khan.

As discussed above, claims 1, 13 and 21 have been amended to state that the recombinant VSV particle is infectious. It is noted that at page 11080, column 1, 2nd complete paragraph, Khan states 'these nonpropagating viruses (ΔG) lack the VSV gene, which is essential for infectivity and are propagated on BHK cells that supply the VSV G glycoprotein in *trans*'.

Claims 1-3, 5, 13-15, 17, 19-23 and 25-28 were rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as unpatentable over Kahn in view of Takada.

It is believed that the amendments discussed above distinguish applicant's invention from Khan. It is further noted that at page 14764, column 2, 1st complete paragraph, Takada states 'in the present study, we generated a recombinant VSV that contains the green fluorescent protein (GFP) gene, instead of the G protein gene, and thus is not infectious unless the envelope protein responsible for receptor binding and membrane fusion is provided in trans'.

In view of the foregoing, further and more favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
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